

*Any
Claim
B1
Cancelled*

20. (New) An apparatus for reproducing the audio information and the still image information from the medium of claim 1.
21. (New) An apparatus for reproducing the audio information and the still image information from the medium of claim 3.
22. (New) An apparatus for recording the audio information and the still image information on the medium of claim 1.
23. (New) An apparatus for recording the audio information and the still image information on the medium of claim 3.--

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Applicants submit herewith a "Request for Approval of Drawing Change," to amend Fig. 9.

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated March 3, 2003, the Examiner: objected to claim 5; rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,835,667 to Wactlar et al. ("Wactlar"); rejected claims 3-4, 7-9, and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,453,119 to Maruyama et al. ("Maruyama"); rejected claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Maruyama in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,519,415 to Kim et al. ("Kim"); and rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § as

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unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,986,701 to Anderson et al. ("Anderson I") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,249,316 to Anderson ("Anderson II"). By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 2, 4, and 7-14, without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claims 1, 3, 5, and 6, and add new claims 15-23.

Objection to claim 5

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 5. In particular, the Examiner indicated that the phrase "contents of said first audio information before divided" should read -- contents of said first audio information before being divided--. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 5 as suggested by the Examiner to correct this grammatical error. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. In particular, the Examiner asserts that claims 5 and 6 are unclear as to the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth audio information. Applicants have reviewed and, where appropriate, amended claims 5 and 6 to clarify the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth audio information, respectively. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Wactlar. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claim 2, without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, the rejection to claim 2 is now moot.

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Claim 1 now recites an information storage medium for recording audio information and still image information. The information storage medium is configured to record one or more music reproduction units for reproducing the audio information and set information for setting the still image information to represent contents of the music reproduction unit. The set information is provided for at least one of the music reproduction units. The still image information that is configured to be displayed first in the music reproduction is set as the still image information being representative of the contents of the music reproduction unit.

Wactlar is directed to creating a searchable digital library for text, audio, and video segments. (See Wactlar, col. 4, lines 31-32.) In order to assist with searching, Wactal's digital library includes a "function 35" that generates icons for a particular segment of video. (See Wactlar, col. 13, lines 52-53.) When generating the icon, the function 35 selects an image that is representative of the content in the segment of video. (See Wactlar, col. 13, lines 53-59.) However, in order to avoid "misleading" a user, the function 35 selects an image that closely maps to the content of the video segment. (See Wactlar, col. 13, line 60 through col. 14, line 8.)

In contrast, claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, the still image information that is configured to be displayed first in the music reproduction is set as the still image information being representative of the contents of the music reproduction unit. Wactlar does not teach such a feature. Instead, Wactlar teaches selecting an image that maps to the content of a video segment as a representative icon. (Id.) Indeed, Wactlar teaches that the function 35 will typically not use the first images that are displayed for a video segment, because they provide "no significant visual clue about the content of the video." (See

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Wactlar, col. 13, lines 60-65). Therefore, Wactlar does not teach the “still image information configured to be displayed first in the music reproduction is set as the still image information being representative of the contents of the music reproduction unit,” as recited by claim 1. Accordingly, since Wactlar fails to teach all the features of claim 1, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1.

Rejection of claims 3-4, 7-9, and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 3-4, 7-9, and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Maruyama. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 4, 7-9, and 11-14. Therefore, the rejection to these claims is now moot.

Claim 3 recites, *inter alia*, “still image information configured to be displayed first is set as the still image information representing the contents of the reproduction sequence.” Maruyama fails to teach such a feature.

Maruyama teaches a digital recording/playback system. (See Maruyama, col. 4, lines 50-51.) In addition, Maruyama teaches that an icon may be generated from a stored representative picture. (See Maruyama, col. 39, lines 14-15.) The stored representative picture is stored in a specific data area. (See Maruyama, col. 8, lines 8-19.) When playing audio or video information, Maruyama’s system reads a “lead-in area” and first displays information from the location specified by the lead in area. (See Maruyama, col. 10, line 2 *et seq.*). That is, Maruyama first displays information stored

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at locations designated by the lead-in area and does not first display the representative picture.

In contrast, claim 3 recites, “still image information configured to be displayed first is set as the still image information representing the contents of the reproduction sequence.” Maruyama does not teach, for example, this feature. Instead, Maruyama teaches a separate representative picture that is stored in a special memory location to generate an icon, not the images configured to be displayed first. Therefore, Maruyama does not teach a “still image information configured to be displayed first is set as the still image information representing the contents of the reproduction sequence,” as recited by claim 3. Accordingly, since Maruyama fails to teach all the features of claim 3, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3.

Rejection of claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 5-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Maruyama in view of Kim et al. (“Kim”). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In the Office Action, the Examiner correctly notes that Maruyama fails to teach or suggest all the features of claims 5 and 6. However, the Examiner alleges that it would have been obvious to combine Maruyama with Kim to arrive at the features of claims 5 and 6. The Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 5 recites a method for setting a representative image. One or more music reproduction units are provided for reproducing audio information which includes first audio information managed in the music reproduction unit. The first audio information

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managed in the music reproduction unit is divided into second audio information and third audio information. A still image is then recorded. The still image is coincident with the representative image of contents of the first audio information before being divided and is a representative image of contents of the second audio information and third audio information. The second and third audio information can be used to reproduce music corresponding to the first audio information.

Maruyama fails to teach the features of claim 5. For example, Maruyama fails to teach "recording . . . a still image being coincident with the representative image of contents of said first audio information before being divided, as a representative image of contents of said second audio information and as a representative image of contents of said third audio information," as recited by claim 5. Instead, Maruyama teaches a representative picture for each portion recorded on a disc. (See Maruyama, col. 33, lines 16-41.) When information is divided into portions, Maruyama's system specifies a corresponding representative picture for each portion. (See Maruyama, col. 8, lines 15-31.) Therefore, Maruyama does not teach "recording . . . a still image being coincident with the representative image of contents of said first audio information before being divided, as a representative image of contents of said second audio information and as a representative image of contents of said third audio information," as recited by claim 5.

Furthermore, Kim fails to cure the deficiencies of Maruyama. Kim teaches that video that is divided into a plurality parts and each part is linked with an inputted still image. (See Kim, col. 3, lines 53-68.) Therefore, after a video is divided, each part of the video is assigned its own still image.

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In contrast, as noted above, claim 5 recites, *inter alia*, "recording . . . a still image being coincident with the representative image of contents of said first audio information before being divided, as a representative image of contents of said second audio information and as a representative image of contents of said third audio information." Assigning each part of a video a corresponding still image after it has been divided, as taught by Kim, is not the same as "recording . . . a still image being coincident with the representative image of contents of said first audio information before being divided, as a representative image of contents of said second audio information and as a representative image of contents of said third audio information," as recited by claim 5. Therefore, Kim also fails to teach or suggest this feature. Accordingly, even if Maruyama and Kim were properly combinable, the combination of Maruyama and Kim would still fail to teach or suggest all the features of claim 5.

As to claim 6, it recites, *inter alia*, "recording . . . the representative image of contents of earlier-reproduced audio information, as a representative image of contents of said sixth audio information, wherein said earlier-reproduced audio information indicates one of said fourth audio information before combining and said fifth audio information before combining, which one is reproduced earlier than the other after being combined." For reasons similar to those explained above, Maruyama and Kim, even in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least this feature. Since the combination of Maruyama and Kim fail to teach or suggest all the features of claims 5 and 6, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 5 and 6.

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Rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § as unpatentable over Anderson I in view of Anderson II. By this Amendment, Applicants cancel claim 10, without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, the rejection to claim 10 is now moot.

New claims 15-23

As to new claims 15-23, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons that claims 1 and 3 are allowable, respectively. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the timely allowance of new claims 15-23.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by this amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made." Deletions appear as normal text surrounded by [] and additions appear as underlined text.

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Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: June 3, 2003

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2, 4, and 7-14, without prejudice, amend claims 1, 3, 5, and 6, and add new claims 15-23, as follows:

1. (Once Amended) An information storage medium for recording audio information and still image information, said information storage medium [recording] being configured to record:

one or more [first] music reproduction units for reproducing said audio information; and

set information for setting the still image information to represent contents of the [first] music reproduction unit,

wherein said set information is provided for at least one of said [first] music reproduction units, and the still image information configured to be displayed first in the music reproduction unit is set as the still image information being representative of the contents of the music reproduction unit.

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3. (Once Amended) An information storage medium for recording audio information, still image information, and one or more reproduction sequences for reproducing said audio information, wherein, in at least one of said reproduction sequences, said still image information is configured to be displayed at the same time when said audio information is reproduced, said information storage medium [recording] being configured to record:

information for specifying or designating the still image information to represent contents of the reproduction sequence in which the still image information is to be displayed

wherein, in a case where the still image information is configured to be displayed at the same time when the audio information is reproduced in accordance with the reproduction sequence, the still image information configured to be displayed first is set as the still image information representing the contents of the reproduction sequence.

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5. (Once Amended) A method for setting a representative image, wherein the setting method uses an information storage medium for recording audio information, still image information, and management information indicative of a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said still image information, said setting method comprising:

providing one or more [first] music reproduction units for reproducing said audio information which includes first audio information managed in the [first] music reproduction unit;

dividing said first audio information managed in the [first] music reproduction unit into second audio information and third audio information [reproduced is the first reproduction unit]; and

recording, in said management information, a still image being coincident with the representative image of contents of said first audio information before being divided, as a representative image of contents of said second audio information and as a representative image of contents of said third audio information,

wherein said second and third audio information can be used to reproduce music corresponding to said first audio information.

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6. (Once Amended) A method for setting a representative image, wherein the setting method uses an information storage medium for recording audio information, still image information, and management information indicative of a reproduction relationship between said audio information and said still image information, said setting method comprising:

providing one or more [first] music reproduction units for reproducing said audio information which includes fourth audio information and fifth audio information managed in the [first] one or more music reproduction units;

combining said fourth audio information and said fifth audio information to form sixth audio information [reproduced in the first reproduction unit]; and

recording, in said management information, the representative image of contents of earlier-reproduced audio information, as a representative image of contents of said sixth audio information, wherein said earlier-reproduced audio information indicates one of said fourth audio information before combining and said fifth audio information before combining, which one is reproduced earlier than the other after [combining] being combined,

and wherein said sixth audio information can be used to reproduce music corresponding to said fourth and fifth audio information.

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